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Message Text

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63
ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00

SCA-01 PA-04 PRS-01 L-03 A-01 SY-04 EUR-06 /033 W
---------- 104137
R 122240Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2660

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 9345

FOL REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QTE
R 110940Z JUL 74
FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY
TO RUSBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 9344
INFO RUSBTA/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 1808
RUSBAS/AMCONSUL MADRAS 1842
C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOMBAY 1562

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR CVIS IN
SUBJ: BLITZ ALLEGES U.S. VISAS CAN BE OBTAINED FOR A
PRICE

1. JULY 13 EDITION BLITZ APPEARING TODAY CARRIES ARTICLE "AGENTS QUARANTEE US VISA AT A PRICE". ACCORDING ARTICLE, AN AMERICAN VISA IN BOMBAY'S "FREE MARKET" IS CURRENTLY BEING QUOTED AT BETWEEN 5,000 AND 10,000 RUPEES ALTHOUGH IT GOES ON SAY MANY INDIAN BUSINESSMEN TRAVEL TO US VIA NEPAL OR COLOMBO "SINCE IT IS CLAIMED THAT THE PRICE OF AN AMERICAN VISA IN THESE PLACES IS FAR LESS THAN IN BOMBAY". THRUST OF ARTICLE IS THAT SINCE 1971 US HAS BEEN SCREENING MORE CAREFULLY APPLICATIONS FROM INDIANS SEEKING VISIT US WHICH HAS RESULTED "IN MUSHROOMING OF ALLEGED CONTACT MEN WITH US CONSULAR REPRESENTATIONS IN INDIA
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AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES." ACCORDING ARTICLE THERE ARE TWO

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VISA DEALERS IN BOMBAY WHO ASSURE CLEARANCE OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS
OF INTENDING VISITORS WITHIN FOUR DAYS. ARTICLE DOES MAKE POINT,
HOWEVER, THAT FOR EVERY INDIAN WHO GETS A VISA THROUGH "UNDERWORLD
SOURCES", TEN GET CHEATED.

2. COMMENT: IT IS INTERESTING THAT THE BLATANTLY PRO-SOVIET
BLITZ WISHES TO PUBLICIZE THE HIGH VALUE PLACED ON US VISAS BY
INDIANS GENERALLY (THIS IS TRUE BECAUSE IT SEEMS ALMOST EVERYBODY
WANTS ONE THESE DAYS) AND WE WONDER WHAT THE "LOCAL QUOTATION" MIGHT
BE FOR A SOVIET VISA. IT IS NONSENSE, OF COURSE, TO SAY THAT WE ARE
RESTRICTING VISAS AS RESULT EVENTS 1971 AND STEADY INCREASE IN
VISAS ISSUED BEARS TESTAMENT TO THIS. THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER
OF APPLICANTS IN BOMBAY SINCE 1971 HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIAL AND WE ARE
FLOODED DAILY BY APPLICANTS (INDIAN LADIES IN THEIR SAREES WADED
INTO OUR COMPOUND IN WATER UP TO THEIR WAISTS THE MORNING OF
JULY 5 TO GET THEIR VISAS), A PROBLEM OUR SOVIET COLLEAGUES
ARE NOT CONFRONTED WITH. IF FIGURES QUOTED IN ARTICLE AS
REGARDS PROPORTION OF THOSE CHEATED ARE AT ALL RELIABLE, WE
ARE NOT DOING BADLY IN THWARTING THOSE WHO FEEL IT
NECESSARY TO OBTAIN FRAUDULENT DOCUMENTS (E.G., AFFIDAVITS
OF SUPPORT, EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATES, ETC.). THERE CAN BE
NO DOUBT THAT THERE ARE MANY SUCH "VISA BROKERS" AND "CONFIDENCE
PEDDLERS" SEEKING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE GULLIBLE AND
UNINFORMED WHO MIGHT VERY WELL QUALIFY WITHOUT BENEFIT
OF SUCH HELP AS WELL AS TO ASSIST THOSE WHO ARE CLEARLY IN NEED OF
FRAUDULENT DOCUMENTATION IF AN ATTEMPT IS TO BE MAE TO GET
A VISA. THE MOST COMMON PROBLEM THAT WE ENCOUNTER IS THE HIGH PRO-
PORTION OF VISA APPLICANTS WHO HAVE BEEN BRIEFED OR "COACHED" BEFORE
HAND
BY THE NUMEROUS LOCAL TRAVEL AGENTS. THE ARTICLE DOES NOT SUGGEST
NOR HAVE THERE BEEN ANY ALLEGATIONS MADE LOCALLY TO OUR
KNOWLEDGE OF ATTEMPTS TO COUNTERFEIT US VISAS. IN SUM, THIS IS
A TYPICAL UNSUBSTANTIATED BLITZ ALLEGATION TO WHICH WE
SHOULD NOT ATTACH UNDUE IMPORTANCE.
BANE UNQTE SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, TRAVEL CONTROLS, VISAS, VISA FRAUD, BLACK MARKETS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740187-0809
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740753/aaaabtru.tel
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
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To: STATE
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